

USGF

# GYMNASTICS

VOL. 10 NO. 3





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**COVER PHOTO:** The Dynamic Power Of Janine McNamara Captured In This Cover Photo Taken By Rich Kenny At The American Cup Held For The First Time In The USGF's New Home Town Of Fort Worth, Texas

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GYMNASTICS

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## USA GYMNASTICS — A TIME OF CHANGE

During the past five years or so, the sport of gymnastics has undergone a challenge in the American public school system. Not only at the elementary and secondary level but also at the university level. The sport of gymnastics has had a tendency to decline. This decline is apparently an outgrowth of financial reengagement which have been forced by economic times. One moving press is that Title IX legislation has mandated that women's athletic programs be brought into alignment with those of their male counterparts. This has motivated an increase in women's programs in the school system. Notwithstanding that fact, I feel that the large trend is towards a decline of sports that are not revenue producing in the school systems. Chief administrators in schools are looking more and more to the potential of a sport for producing revenue to pay for itself and to support other school and academic programs.

The current school situation is not one that is irreversable. It is however, in my estimation, a series of hard times. Not only economically, but also hard times in the form of low participation for the American educational process at the present time. As we all know times change and in all likelihood the school situation will go full circle, perhaps manifesting itself in better times for the sport of gymnastics in the schools. As an outgrowth of the current school situation there are in use of other kinds of organizations that appear to be taking up the slack for gymnastics programs that are wanting in the educational system.

Organizations such as YMCA's, Turners, Sokals and private enterprise endeavors in the form of private clubs are all thriving and appear to be taking up much of the slack caused by the problems of the education system. If not! It is a philosophical area point as to who should conduct gymnastics in the U.S.A. The very nature of the American free enterprise system shows us that all organizations who desire to develop a gymnastics program have a right to and in most cases it serves a very real need to the youth of America.

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*"Gymnastics, as a sport, is growing. It is flourishing and it is becoming much more popular and recognizable with the American populace in general. . ."*

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The functions of the URGF are to be the glue that holds organizations together and provide them with a variety of services that can help them to serve each of their individual aims and objectives more effectively. We want to be available as a lobby for instigating renewed growth in the school system for the sport of gymnastics. We need to renew the manner by which athletes can filter up onto national teams from programs within each of the member organizations that belong to the URGF and we need to provide advisory services regarding skills, programs and safety facility design and any other gymnastics — related service that is needed.

As the times change and the programs change regarding where they are concentrated geographically and within which organizations they are flourishing, the URGF needs to reflect that change and adjust accordingly. We could also help those organizations that have been held captive with hard times and try to help them weather those hard times in whatever way we can. The changing emphasis in gymnastics does not necessarily mean hard times for the sport of gymnastics in general, but only a periodic evolutionary change as to where the programs are occurring.

Gymnastics, as a sport, is growing. It is flourishing and it is becoming much more popular and recognizable with the American populace in general. We hope that we can continue through an expanding magazine and expanding our visibility as an organization to and that increased growth to the point where each of our organizations is benefited and enjoys the fruits of our growth.





**USA SWEEPS  
AMERICAN CUP  
McNAMARA  
AND  
CONNER  
'81 CHAMPIONS**



# M

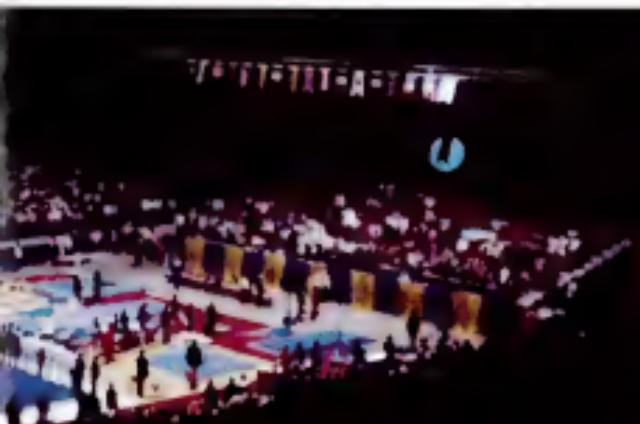
any of the world's top gymnasts returned to Fort Worth last March for the 6th Annual American Cup. The last time many of them had traveled here was in December '76 for the 10th World Championships, while for others it marked their first time in America and to Texas. 48 men and women from 17 countries participated, making this American Cup the largest in its numbers of gymnasts and countries in the six year history of the meet. Delegations from Bulgaria, Japan, Hungary, German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Canada, Mexico, China and eight other countries came to town, to share and exchange ideas, to enjoy — and to compete.

The meet format was unique. The schedule included three days of competition, Friday night — men's qualifying round; Saturday night — women's qualifying round, and Sunday afternoon — men's and women's AA finals. On Friday and Saturday the winner of each event was honored as the individual event champion, and on Sunday the top eight AA gymnasts, male and female from the previous two nights, qualified to compete for the American Cup.

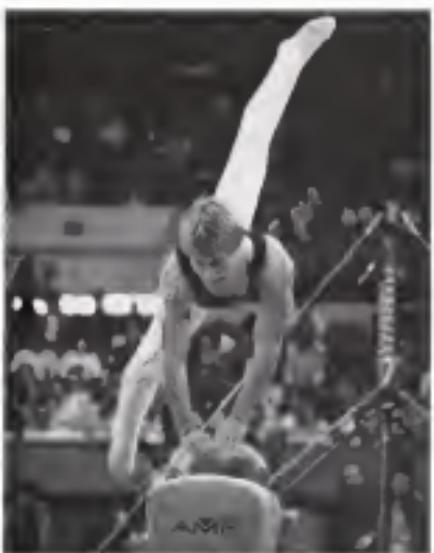
On these first two nights the Americans and the Chinese captured all ten gold medals, the USA winning six and the PRC four. These event champions were: Kathy Johnson (USA) V, Johnson McNamee (USA) and Trevor Toliver (USA) tied US and FX, Jiang Wu (PRC) HB, Bart Conner (USA) PB, Jim Hartung (USA) R, Hartung and Conner tied PH and Mr. Li (PRC) FX, V and HB.



*Elspeth, Oregon's Julianne McNamee and University of Oklahoma's Bart Conner won the 6th Annual American Cup — Held at Ft. Worth's Tarrant County Convention Center, site of the '79 World Championships.*



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### Start Chapter: chapter introduction



Mr. L. and Bart Cawse-Town to a Great American Cup Competition

### *Men's Convictions*

On Friday the stage belonged to Chinese Yunge Li. Sometimes unimpressed on P3 and IL, his six performances that night were flawless in difficulty requirements, technique, consistency, showmanship and form. His X3, V, B16 with triple-back double-back and PR final sequence of back-hand, side-hand, pike double-back were tremendous. Li was the world's champion in P3, he remains unquestionably the most difficult in international competition, and his V began pike handspins front with his half-twirl was executed with back, distance, form and a perfect landing.

Berndt Conrad, Hartung and Li qualifying for AA. Evans won Japan's Natsuko Hirata (1986 All-Japan) and Kyoko Yamamoto (1985 Olympic Trials Champion), Ulf Hafslund (1986), Yang Peng (1986) and Jorgens Geiger (1986). Friday, as well as Sunday, the Japanese team had major breaks on P/B and minor breaks through out both competitions. Japanese men's coach, Munao Yamada offered these comments to John Storkus — Fort Worth Star Telegram. In the All-Japan competition these two gentlemen (Hirata-Yamamoto) finished in the upper level — our concentration is no exception to the Japanese.

The American Cup had perhaps the greatest depth and quality to date. The competition to make the finals was superior. Coming out of the qualifying round it appeared to have the momentum to win, yet Conner and Hartung were consistent throughout to ensure their 1-3 finish. In finals Conner and Hartung won P1, while Conner had four awards in FX, V and BB. Results on P1 left L-8-9-9 and finishing 3rd AA. Hartung continued to improve the foreign assignments despite his recovering from an ankle injury which limited his work on FX, V and Inaugural Inaugural consistently with today's difficult and technical requirements is increasingly becoming the trend of the Americas, and that lack of consistency was the general rule. Ross, Herter, Yamamoto and Stoffman,

In an AP salute by Sharon Herbaugh, American Cup Chairperson Bert Custer reflected about his victory that the American Cup Championship, having won the Cup in 1970. "It was a good look for me. This was my first competition at that international level since my long sabbatical in May 1986." Also, following the meet, Roger Cowell (USCG) and former Men's National Coach enthusiastically commented, "The American men continue to be strongly competitive at the international level and continue to prove a solidarity of the USA program. This was an excellent competition."

*"As the Olympic age requirement increases, the future of the senior women gymnasts will be interesting to watch."*



DC's Award to Behnke Also as "Mr. Gold" would reveal  
DODGE CITY, KANSAS

### Women's Competition

The size and age of the women competitors should be noted. Wei and Huang Qian (PRC) are age 13, a little over 4' tall and under 60 pounds each. Their difficulty included full-tors and pike double-backs on FX and BB. Kotka Sivula (CSEB) is 19, 5'8" and did perhaps the finest vault Saturday night, a 9.85 tucked in full.

All ages, all heights, all weights, all ages... with difficulty and international quality across-the-board. As the Olympic age requirement increases, the future of the senior women gymnasts will be interesting to watch. Here, at the American Cup, Kathy Johnson at age 20 had the difficulty, technique, style and grace to make her gymnastics to exemplify that trend and question.

In an interview prior to competition Kathy Johnson told John Starlin, "I haven't competed internationally since the 1979 World Championships. Be it ever many more things to show and I hope to compete them w/". After these events Saturday night Johnson was leading the American Cup when she over-rotated her pike double-back in the second tumbling pass, which dropped her to 5th and kept her from AA finals. (Competition guidelines allowed only two gymnasts per country to finals.)

In winning the American Cup in Saturday AA finals, Julianne McNamara showed consistency, difficulty, form, style and a competitive attitude which enabled her to win all four events and outdistance all three second place finishers. Taiheven Qian and Lavenia Agius (ROM) Miss Rabun, UPI, termed McNamara's victory, "the most important in her career".

McNamara (15) was the '80 Champion of the USA, USA Olympian, and only days before the American Cup, saw her chances to repeat as the USA Champion dimmed in one event at the second 1980 compulsory BB in Allentown, PA. American Cup marked one of McNamara's first top international meets which she won 38.725 to 38.400. She had two consistent competitors while her USA teammate, Taiheven, had broken on BB and US. McNamara's boys unquestionably rank among the world's best and appear to put her into the same league with World Champion Max Onsark (DDR).

Women's Highlights: Michael Strelak (ROM) 2-gymn (big-flops) in a row on BB, each off a different bar, Lavenia Agius (GLM) in FX where she did a 2½ twisting-back to pommel finish, Taiheven and Frants Voigt (DDR) triple falls on FX, again the Chinese dance and choreography on FX and BB is masterful, and Heinz Seiff (DDR) handspring 6-back is a V with good technique, height, form and under scored.

*"Mike Rabun, UPI, termed McNamara's victory, '... the most important in her career'."*

### AMERICAN CUP PAST CHAMPIONS

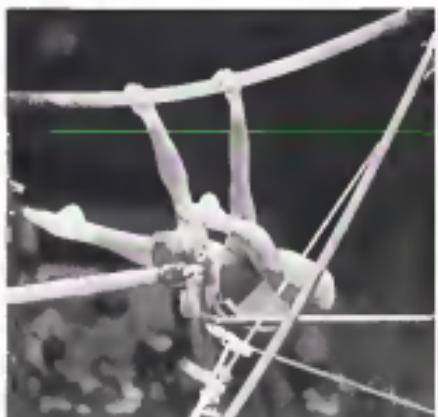
|      |                     |                 |
|------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1976 | Concacci (ROM)      | Casper (USA)    |
| 1977 | Johnson (USA)       | Tsukahara (JPN) |
| 1978 | Tenscherenko (USSR) | Thomas (USA)    |
| 1979 | Zakirov (USSR)      | Thomas (USA)    |
| 1980 | Taiheven (USA)      | Thomas (USA)    |
| 1981 | McNamara (USA)      | Casper (USA)    |



Julianne McNamara's dynamic grace in action.



International competition journalism at the American Cup



A show of power and flexibility by Julianne McNamara

**'81 AMERICAN CUP QUALIFYING RESULTS**  
**FI: Worth, TX March 22, 1981**

|                   | FX  | FI     | B      | V      | FB     | HB     | AA     |
|-------------------|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| LI PING           | FIN | 12.000 | 12.000 | 12.000 | 12.000 | 12.000 | 12.000 |
| COMMER, Bert      | USA | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| NARTUNG, James    | USA | 8.4400 | 8.4750 | 8.4400 | 8.4400 | 8.4400 | 8.4400 |
| BRATTON, Anthony  | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| YAMAMOTO, Keiji   | JPN | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| KAMIMURA, Kuni    | JPN | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| KOPPSTEIN, Bill   | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| FUNG, Yung        | PRC | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| SHAFER, August    | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| SORRENTINO, Tom   | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| GAUDIOT, Dennis   | CAN | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| BABIK, Kurt       | CAN | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| BOULFROU, Michael | FIN | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| BRIGGINS, Jürgen  | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| LANGELEP, Keith   | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| LOVETTE, Lam      | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| SHIBATA, Ken      | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| LEUNG, Rainer     | CAN | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| JAPTON, Jennifer  | FIN | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| PIATTI, Massimo   | FIN | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| YUAN, Yimin       | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| PETKOV, Petar     | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| LEWIS, Jim        | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| SOLODOVNIK, Igor  | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| BRIDGER, Grahame  | GBR | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |
| SURCHET, Felipe   | FIN | 8.1400 | 8.1750 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 | 8.1400 |

**'81 AMERICAN CUP QUALIFYING RESULTS**

|                     | V   | UB     | BD     | FX     | AA     |
|---------------------|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|
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| MAKAROV, Valeriy    | GBR | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
| COLI, Gianni        | FIN | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
| ADAMOV, Anatoli     | PRC | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
| YAMADA, Keiji       | GBR | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
| WU, Jing            | PRC | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
| VOGL, Helmut        | GBR | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
| SHIBARAKU, Moton    | GBR | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
| SEMLIKY, Mirek      | PRC | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
| SEMLIKY, Mirek      | GBR | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
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| BARCIOLO, Lucio     | PRC | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
| FUCHSBERG, Gert     | PRC | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |
| MEDE, Raimo         | PRC | 8.6300 | 8.7200 | 8.6300 | 8.6300 |



'81 American Cup round-up: Jim Harting — USA

# USA TEAM TRIALS FOR THE 21ST WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

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Kathy Johnson

# CHINESE PAIR WIN '81 INTERNATIONAL MIXED-PAIRS

"Maybe I can set an example. Maybe if I keep competing, other girls won't quit at such an early age. I hope I can change the trend. I feel stronger than ever right now. I feel I'm a better gymnast than I've ever been. That's why I'm still competing. I feel like my best meets may be ahead of me. It boggles my mind to think about how good gymnasts could be if they kept with it and let their bodies mature."

*Florida Times-Union — March 22, 1981 — Pat Dooley*



University of Nebraska's AJ American during the men's floor exercise at the 3rd International Mixed-Pairs in Jacksonville, FL.



Bozeman's Michaela Stanclik records a 9.70 V, 9.80 BM and 9.80 FX in Jacksonville, FL at the 3rd International Mixed-Pairs.

In Fort Worth at the American Cup the weekend prior to the Mixed-Pairs competition, the Chinese and Americans took top honors. In Jacksonville, Florida the Chinese and Americans once again dominated the competition. The winners of the 3rd Annual International Mixed-Pairs were Huang Qun and Tong Li from the People's Republic of China. Second went Americans Kathy Johnson and Jim Hartung. Followed in third by Maria Fudimak and Phil Caley.

Following American Cup over 300 athletes, coaches, judges and meet personnel boarded an Air Florida jetliner and headed for Jacksonville and the "Sunshair State." The International Mixed-Pairs was co-hosted by the Charter Company and the City of Jacksonville. The event was covered by CBS-TV, with Mutual Ground and Disk Sheets.

Mixed-Pairs is unique. In a Times Union interview with Pat Dooley prior to the competition Kathy Johnson viewed the sport as, "A fun event, but that doesn't mean we won't be trying. Anytime

we step on the floor we're trying to win. But that kind of event doesn't have the pressure that some have."

The atmosphere and attitudes of all the delegations was relaxed. Mixed-Pairs is intended to be a friendly competition, designed to promote goodwill throughout the gymnastics world. The quality of competition has been, and is excellent. International Mixed-Pairs Champions have included World Champions Minu Gwang, Marcus Frederik, Kurt Thomas, and now Vagit La Gassanov.

The format for Mixed-Pairs teams together one male and one female gymnast is a three-tier elimination competition. In all, 22 teams/pairs enter the first round of competition with each gymnast choosing one event to perform on. Both gymnast's scores are judged, and their scores are added for a composite score for each pair. The top 12 pairs qualify for an elimination round of which the top 6 pairs advance to finals. In each round the gymnasts must choose a different event, and the final score for each pair is cumulative through the three rounds.



USA Junior Champion Dennis Da-Han (bottom left), Gymnasts Phil Caley (top left) and 12 year old Huang Qian from the People's Republic of China.

There were 9 Americans in the field of 44 gymnasts, representing 16 countries. Jeremy USA Olympian Johnson, Frederick Hartung, Caley, Julianne McNamee and Tessa Talavera were USA Junior National Champions. Ursula Durban (Gerry, DE) and junior Nicole Kachner (Allentown, PA) and Ben Jacques (Blacksville, FL) in unresilient 161 moves scheduling McNamee, Talavera and the junior girls were not paired with American male gymnasts, a circumstance USGF officials feel, "...should end well be corrected in future Mixed Pairs events."

---

*"International Mixed Pairs Champions have included World Champions Maxi Gnauck, Marcia Frederick, Kurt Thomas . . . and now Yuejie Li."*

---

In this pairs competition, advancing to the next round depends not only on how gymnast performs but on both partners. In Round 1, five routines on Talavera's 9.60 UB, Jacques' 9.40 V, Durban's 9.25 UB and Kachner's 9.25 FX unfortunately were combined with major and minor routine breaks from their respective partners, causing these 4 Americans not to qualify for Round 2.

Going into the final round, 68 separated the top five pairs. The six final teams included Michael Skolnik and Dan Odeh (USA), Jiang Wei (PRC) and Michael Bestard (FRA), Marcus Frederick and Phil Caley, Julianne McNamee and Jorgos Giorgis (PRG), Kathy Johnson and Jim Hartung and Huang Qian and Yuejie Li.



Qan and La were leading after Round 2 GL - 3 70.90/3 90 V and Qan - 9.35 V 9.75 FX), and entered Finals with a .75 lead over Johnson (9.70 V 9.55 U) and Hartung (9.50 P 9.50 T 9.50 E, in third was McNamee (9.44 V 9.35 U) and Germany's Geiger (9.30 FX 9.60 V). In the last round La, the reigning World Cup FB Champion, chose P9 as his final event scoring 9.70, and combined with Qan's 9.45 BB totaled 19.44 to secure their victory. Johnson (9.30 FX) and Hartung (9.50 P) also totaled 19.44 in the final round. Moving into third were Pfrederick (9.66 BB) and Caley (9.60 BB) as Johnson, McNamee's 9.50 FX combined with Geiger's 9.10 BB came up short of the other competitors and dropped them to 5th even.



On behalf of the Charter-Gymnastics Association, Charter's Delegation Leader Mr. Jack Gao accepts the Charter Star—presented to the winning country of Mixed Pairs by the Charter Company.

**81 INTERNATIONAL MIXED-PAIRS**  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA  
MARCH 24, 1981

|                   | Round 1 | Round 2 | Round 3 | TOTAL |      |     |      |       |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------|------|-----|------|-------|
| Werner Qan        | PRG     | V       | 9.61    | FX    | 9.76 | BB  | 9.40 |       |
| Yvonne Li         | PRG     | V       | 9.55    | FX    | 9.76 | BB  | 9.79 | 17.09 |
| Wally Johnson     | USA     | V       | 9.76    | BB    | 9.68 | FX  | 9.79 |       |
| Jim Hartung       | USA     | P       | 9.66    | P     | 9.79 | BB  | 9.50 | 17.96 |
| Wanda Pfrederick  | USA     | V       | 9.50    | BB    | 9.58 | BB  | 9.58 |       |
| Phil Caley        | PRG     | PB      | 9.35    | FX    | 9.66 | BB  | 9.82 | 17.32 |
| Jerry Wei         | PRG     | V       | 9.60    | FX    | 9.66 | BB  | 9.10 |       |
| Markus Wittenberg | USA     | P       | 9.71    | BB    | 9.65 | BB  | 9.20 | 17.56 |
| Andrea McNamee    | USA     | V       | 9.65    | BB    | 9.76 | BB  | 9.20 |       |
| Jürgen Geiger     | PRG     | PX      | 9.38    | P     | 9.58 | BB  | 9.15 | 14.91 |
| Monica Tsvetan    | PRG     | V       | 9.36    | BB    | 9.51 | PRG | 9.20 |       |
| Don Ostrom        | PRG     | PX      | 9.45    | V     | 9.40 | PRG | 9.20 | 18.00 |

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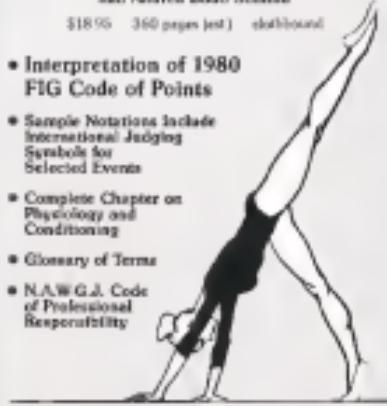
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# INTERNATIONAL

FRANCE

DDR

ENGLAND

JAPAN

## PARIS

Grand Prix de Paris



On Tuesday Sue Stachols, Kris Masters, our tour leader and judge Joanne Paquette and I, boarded our Air France 747 at 9 pm in LA and arrived ten hours later in Paris. With the nine hour time change it was now 6:00 pm. Wednesday. For our first workout, on Thursday, we were bussed to the site of the competition which was a very nice 4200 seat arena. As we entered the arena we were greeted by a most friendly one, all ADF equipment. Our workouts went well except for seating which had a tendency which moved every time anyone sat in it.

President — Friday, March 6 upon arrival Kris and Sue were in seventh heaven when they spotted a new luggage vanishing way. That seemed to set the tone for the competition which was indeed over French television.

We competed in international order thus vaulting was first. Thanks to the new runway the girls were able to display their superiority in vaulting. They were truly the best vaulters in the competition and proved it by finishing prelims with Kris in first with a 9.45 for a good fall twisting tucked takahashi, and Sue in second place with a 9.40 for a well executed layout backbends.

*"They were easily the best vaulters in the competition and proved it by finishing prelims with Kris in first ... and Sue in second place."*

On bars the girls met their match in Russia's Helene Gourina and Bulgaria's Sylva Topolova. Gourina led off competition with a beautifully executed routine which included a very late drop back tuck with a one-half pikeout in an immediate front tuck to an immediate double front over between the bars. Her 9.55 was closely followed by Topolova's 9.50 routine which was equally well-executed and completed perfect tucks front and back, but her giant had a slight tuck and arch. Masters was third with a very clean routine which included a single bar tuck, front tuck, and a belly whip straddle front to the high bar. Kris 9.35 was followed closely by Stachols' 9.30 routine which included a belly whip to handstand on the high bar, one-half pikeout to clear flip castle.

Again Gourina and Topolova were dominating on beam. Both gymnasts worked extremely steady with excellent amplitude and difficulty. Both had back walkovers to immediate layout step outs and both finished with a one-half tucked double-tucks. Gourina finished with a 9.35 and Topolova's 9.35. In third was Switzerland's number one gymnast, Renate Reutter, who displayed a very steady routine, but did not have the difficulty of Gourina or Topolova. Stachols was fourth with 9.35 and Masters fifth with 9.15. Both our girls hit well but had a few hiccups which held their scores down.

On floor Sue and Kris were the superior gymnasts. Using a new routine Stachols scored 9.40 which had her first with Gourina of Russia. Both Gourina and Gourina started with a tuck double-tuck, worked into a double over in the middle and finished with a one double-twist. The Bulgarian, Topolova, was a beautiful dancer, but her tumbling difficulty was weak. She managed with a low tuck single-tuck followed by an arched step through to a layout back and dismounted with a layout back with a one-half twist. Masters managed with a very high piked double back but unfortunately over turned it. She finished beautifully scoring a 9.0 which would get her into finals. Most of the competitors had low double backs and double-twists which looked ungraceful.

All around was won by Russia's Helene Gourina with a fine

9.65. She was the last gymnast but needs to improve vaulting. Sue Stachols finished second with 9.35. Her increasing consistency was again the major factor which led to her excellent showing. Third place went to Bulgaria's Sylva Topolova with a 9.30. Topolova, like Gourina is an outstanding gymnast but is a weak wifte. Kris Masters finished fourth with a 9.05. Had she not over-turned her piked double over she could have been the winner. The Swiss National Champion Renate Reutter finished fifth with a fine 8.85 followed by Bulgaria's Veneska Werts at 8.80.

Event Finals — Finals were to begin at 2:00 pm on Sunday and were to be aired live on French television. Kris and Sue were 1st and 2nd in vaults but 1st and 2nd respectively. They were the only gymnasts who seemed capable of doing two C level vaults. The final standings saw Kris and Sue switch places. Sue had a clean layout-tuck and a nice back-tuck with a one bar twist to a narrow side and Kris who had a nice layout-tuck, but one at 9.10 about an her 9.55. The other gymnasts simply did not have the power of Kris and Sue.

Gourina and Topolova had a bushy lead on bars and both looked too solid to lose their lead but as we often see in high level bar routines in finals both girls pulled off and each scored 9.0. Sue caught her foot on the low bar doing her free straddle mount but quickly recovered and finished with a clean routine scoring a 9.25 which tied her for the lead with Gourina. Kris executed a clean routine, stuck her piked German diamond and walked away as the winner. After the first two events the USA had two different winners and two runner-ups.

Gourina of Russia and Topolova of Bulgaria were in a class by themselves as beam. Their difficulty and execution were exceptional. Switzerland's Renate Reutter hit a very solid routine for a 9.45 but her difficulty did not match Gourina or Topolova. Stachols had her first week of the competition when she fell on her mount but came back with a solid routine to score 9.10 and finish fourth. Masters, as steady as ever, scored 9.05 earning the European reputation to share their displeasure. The judges were aware the crowd enjoyed Kris' routine more than the more technical.

With an excellent chance for her second gold medal of the evening, disaster struck Sue Stachols on floor. Sue started with a nice high tuck double-tuck. She stuck the landing but a lack of agony came over her face. She saluted the judges and immediately leaped off the floor. The injury later diagnosed as a sprained big toe and foot, not only kept her from finishing her routine but would eventually keep her out of the Championships of the USA the next week. Kris Masters stuck her pike double-tuck and continued on to a nice floorless routine and came away with the most impressive floor score of 9.50 which moved her to second place behind Helene Gourina who again had a nice routine containing a low tuck double-tuck and one double-twist.

After the meet we returned to our hotel where we quickly changed to get ready for a farewell banquet. This affair was a super show to conclude the meet. There was much social activity and many flags, banners, pictures and pens were exchanged. The atmosphere was truly one of friendliness.

By Jim Turner

GRAND PRIX DE PARIS  
Paris, France  
March 6, 1981

|    |          | AA TOTAL |
|----|----------|----------|
| 1  | GOURINA  | 9.65     |
| 2  | SYLVIA   | 9.35     |
| 3  | TOPOLOVA | 9.30     |
| 4  | MONTRAIL | 9.15     |
| 5  | REUTTER  | 9.05     |
| 6  | PIETTE   | 8.95     |
| 7  | FRANZER  | 8.85     |
| 8  | DRYMPAS  | 8.80     |
| 9  | MARSH    | 8.65     |
| 10 | ROTELLES | 8.60     |
| 11 | LOHNER   | 8.55     |
| 12 | HASSEN   | 8.50     |

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# COTTBUS, DDR.

## 5th International Masters Championships

The composition of our delegation was most fortunate in many ways. The staff had a great deal of international experience, they were a most knowledgeable and professional team with confidence in relation to the work needed to be carried out in all phases of the event. The women gymnasts, Ulrike Bräuer and Kelly Chaplin were newcomers to the international meet, not having any previous experience in competing outside of the country in a large international competition. The fact they did compete extremely well should be credited mainly to their coach, Mr. Erich Reiter. He gave the girls confidence, support, good coaching and inspiration to go all out in their performances. His task of making important decisions and the right ones in the long run was carried out with the experience of a seasoned coach, leading to success in securing 3rd place in Vaulting and 4th place in AA competition. The men's team with Casey Edwards and Ron Galmore was a good combination. They were competitive, very much "UP" for the meet, supportive of each other and our girls, and were the favorites of the audience along with their own DDR gymnasts. They performed with determination and class! Mr. Ken Allen their coach, handled his work most speedily and professionally. There was an excellent relationship between the gymnasts and coach Jerry Wright, main judge, who was a superb asset to our team. His experience in international meets and knowledge in the mechanics of scoring resulted in many good suggestions and explanations during our "SHUF" talks in getting ready for the next day.

I served as head judge for vaulting. Only two gymnasts performed a 10.00 value vault: GINAUCH (DDR) TSUKAHARA TUCK - 9.97, were #4, SENFF (DDR) FRONT HANDELPING - 10.00 - RACK TUCK, score 9.88. The final batch girls chose chose for 2nd vault: TSUKAHARA LAYOUT. Our Kelly Chaplin in the vaulting section scored 9.30 with a FRONT HS-FRONT TUCK - 1.00 Vault. In the Final she placed 3rd with a 225.10/535 for total. Remarkable is observe on vaulting was the RUNNING SPEED that the gymnasts from the DDR exhibited, especially SENFF. The most difficult vaults were FRONT HS-FRONT TUCK, and TSUKAHARA PIKE.

By Greta Treiber, Delegation Leader and Judge

## MENS REPORT

The level of competition for the men was fairly high but not the absolute best. There were athletes representing fourteen countries. The DDR had eight men compete but designated only three would count in the all-around. Japan and two very good gymnasts in Matsuura and Taguchi but there were no other "names" gymnasts. The USSR sent only one gymnast although all countries had been invited to bring two.

*"Many of the DDR people involved in the organization of the meet were thoroughly embarrassed by the decision of the judges."*

Ron Galmore performed extremely well hitting six for six. He not only had no major blunders but was very exciting as well. No one would have known that his ankles, a shoulder and generally his body was hurting. The scores he received were reasonable with the exception of vaulting. Three of the four vaulting judges were from the DDR and they should have known at the 9.55 they came up with. Even the crowd sensed their displeasure. I protested the score but to no avail. Having seen many of the other DDR performances and scores on the other events, we had every reason to be surprised and happy with a third place finish in the all-around for Ron.

Casey Edwards did not fare so well. This was only his second competition all season, he had several new skills on his weaker events and he had definitely not recovered from the travel. He lookedawful on the leg events - floor exercises and vaulting. He was very much underscored on floor with a 9.25 and I protested the score with no favorable result. He had major breaks on new skills in pommel horse and on horizontal bar and was shaky on the other events. He finished 13th out of 26 gymnasts.

Michael Shatley was the all-around with Bradaker second. Matsuura and Taguchi were fourth and fifth. Notschay was very courageous. He was overscored on floor but had a 9.7 on pommel horse and 9.65 on horizontal bar were well deserved. Bradaker was overscored frequently as were several of the other DDR gymnasts. Relative to some of the scores received by the DDR gymnasts Galmore was definitely underscored.

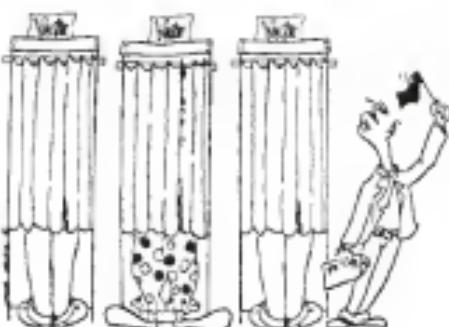
*"We had two gymnasts who were capable of winning events and placing high in the all-around so our objective was not to simply get some international experience."*

The finals on Saturday afternoon 13:00 p.m. were again disastrous. Ron had qualified on everything but pommel horse and Casey qualified on vaulting. Ron did not feel comfortable about competing on floor because both his leg and shoulder were hurting. We switched him. He competed very well on rings scoring 9.6 and moving up to 5th place. Casey and Ron were up first and second respectively on vault. Casey did a tucked Bharat and a layout. Taguchi and Bradaker were done very well but the scores were less than generous. Ron had a fall twisting Tokubaru and followed it with a layout. His scores up in were not reflective of his performance but they were high enough to win if the rest of the scores were given in consecutive fashion. It was a hard pill to swallow, but the gold medal was given to Bradaker.

Surprisingly enough to Ron, myself and the rest of the delegation was the number of mothers, gymnasts and our DDR citizens in the stands who volunteered their embarrassment of what the judges had done. Many of the DDR people involved in the organization of the meet were thoroughly embarrassed by the decision of the judges.

Our trip was not a successful one from the point of view of the competition. We had two gymnasts who were capable of winning events and placing high in the all-around so our objective was not to simply get some international experience.

Men's Report by Ken Allen — University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh



*"Greatness, Mr. Galmore is our next leader!"*

Ron Galmore — one of the world's very best vaulters  
Kelly Chaplin — American Spy in DDR

C5



## WOMANS REPORT

Kelly Chepko of Albuquerque, New Mexico and Jackie Brum, age of Buffalo, New York represented the USA. Kelly finished 11th in the All-Around behind 1st DUB gymnast. She also earned 1st place in Vault and 4th in Uneven Bars and Place Jackie finished 13th in the All-Around.

16 countries were represented with 2 grassroots each except the USSR which entered with 3 counting for the All-Around. Unfortunately that was never acknowledged. The USA contingent was quite small as it turned out. The Kellys would be there, and our flag would not raise as we had hoped. In all fairness, however, to the DDR entries, all 8 of them finished ahead of us by some whether in the shooting or not. Still the game ought to be played by rules which should be made known in all involved areas in the beginning.

*"After all, to follow a Maxi Gnauck takes some getting used to. Kelly and Jackie indeed were fortunate to have had this opportunity."*

For both of our girls it was their first international experience. One could see this quite easily by their politeness with which they let other gymnasts take their turns to warm up. Learning just fast in just 10 days relatives however, so then by the time FINALS came around Kelly, who had qualified in 3 events, was much more confident. She averaged 9.330 on Week 3rd hardest score, which is low due to the fact she does not have a 10-00 Vault. She scored 9.40 in the 10th-FINALS with a very well executed set lacking a V only and also a 9.40 for her floor performance which followed Maci Grawak, who performed a FULL-IN, a TRIPLE TWIST, finished with a DOUBLE BACK, and showed some good dance moves to perfection for a 9.89. The most exciting floor performance, however, was shown by Burgit Bernt who used a spanish theme and just electrified the judges.

Much could be argued on whether or not to send our top two gymnasts as they would find it difficult to win even if they were able to perform better. It is, however, a great opportunity for a new State gymnast to get her first test and gain valuable experience in the process. After all, to follow a Maxi-Gymnast taken were getting used to Kelly and Jackie indeed were fortunate to have had this opportunity. They will be that much more alert when it comes time to represent the USA in the next international competition. It is another achievement, a national team dual meet or the World Championships itself.

By Pinta Ranta

Ken Allen did an excellent job of working with Casey and Barr throughout the competition. In the first men's competition Ken presented the first routine of the meet, Casey Edwards, very professionally and diplomatically. His protest of Casey's score was allowed but the score was only raised 5 tenth. Ken's argument was based upon sound objective status, the judges only gave Casey 3 for R.C.V. and he definitely had three rank factors according to the Code, and should have been awarded 4. I feel unfortunate.

The man's judging was fairly good although Ron Oehlmann appeared to be pleased instead of scored. He should have qualified first in FX and Vault but did not and only placed third in the Walking Finals. He was clearly the best vaultor in the competition. I was superior judge on the horizontal bar. Ron Oehlmann's score on high bar was successfully protested and was raised by 15 from 9.6 to 9.85.

There were eleven countries represented with their judges: Canada, U.S.A., Belgium, Switzerland, U. Germany (first time the U. Germans have been invited to this meet), Romania, Czech, Japan, Suisse, Cuba and Mexico. In the performances, with the events at the same time there naturally were several U.S.A. judges and the results reflected this. However, in the Suisse U. would have been very easy to have taken the ten countries leading Codas because

two equal groups and had them judge every after event. This was not the case. The N. Korean judge was the head judge on the rings and the N. Koreans finished 1-3 in this event. The only event the DDR did not win

This was also one of the first international competitions with open scoring. The interesting part of this was the fact that the scores were not shown to the public until after the audiences were held of any were necessary.

The stars of the competition were quite plainly Esa Galante, Mino Grottkau, Michael Nikolay-Dob, Roland Bruecher DDR, and Kelly Chaplin USA. In Floor Exercise Mino did fall on floor, triple twisting back somersault layout and double back and in visiting he did fall, requiring Traskulus-tracked Nikolay was most impressive on general horse where he is equal in difficulty and technical execution to most of the US specialists. Kelly did very well in her first international competition and looked like she was in very good condition. Her vault was especially impressive (she out-fallen!) On the other hand the DDR sent two very weak gymnasts, one male and one female, and they sent no judges for either the men's or women's competition.

In closing we would like to add that the facilities and equipment were first class, the competition was extremely well organised and fully supported by a capacity crowd of 1500 at each session. We left with the warmest greetings being sent to the people of the USA Gymnastics community and the USGF. The entire delegation wishes to express its appreciation for the opportunity to represent the USA, the USGF, the Men's Gymnastics Judges Association and the Women's Gymnastics Judges Association in this prestigious international event.

Jerry Wright — San Francisco State University

WENIS FINALE  
INTERNATIONAL MASTERS -- DDF  
APRIL 12, 1987

|                        | F3   | F4   | F5   | F6   | F7   | F8   | F9   | AU    |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. Michael Hägglöf     | DPR  | E-80 | 17.9 | 8.26 | 8.00 | 8.26 | 8.05 | 57.08 |
| 2. Kjetil André Aamodt | DPR  | E-80 | 17.9 | 8.26 | 8.00 | 8.26 | 8.05 | 57.08 |
| 3. Ragni Boström       | MBA  | E-80 | 18.3 | 8.18 | 8.03 | 8.20 | 8.09 | 58.76 |
| 4. Sven-Olof Malmkvist | JPH  | E-80 | 14.9 | 8.20 | 9.30 | 8.40 | 8.19 | 54.00 |
| 5. Hans-Joachim Thöni  | JPH  | E-80 | 20.0 | 8.20 | 8.35 | 8.45 | 8.17 | 54.00 |
| 6. Svenn-Åke Chen      | SGAR | E-85 | 18.6 | 8.60 | 8.75 | 8.29 | 8.65 | 55.65 |
| 7. Dennis Conroy       | MBA  | E-86 | 18.6 | 8.66 | 8.66 | 8.82 | 8.66 | 55.88 |

WOMEN'S FINALS  
1984 INTERNATIONAL MASTERS — GOLF  
APRIL 13, 1984

|                    |     | Y    | LB   | BB   | FX   | AA    |
|--------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. Matt Cressick   | OSU | 8.80 | 8.85 | 9.05 | 9.80 | 98.35 |
| 2. Hugo Smith      | OSU | 8.75 | 8.85 | 9.45 | 9.30 | 94.35 |
| 3. Franki Koeg     | OSU | 8.15 | 8.10 | 8.40 | 8.15 | 90.80 |
| 4. Kelly Oglepkin  | USA | 8.98 | 8.95 | 9.05 | 9.15 | 99.25 |
| 5. Robin Cooley    | LVR | 8.25 | 8.85 | 9.10 | 8.85 | 90.25 |
| 6. Michael Kassman | LSU | 8.00 | 8.10 | 8.80 | 8.80 | 86.20 |

7 Cura (FIRE) 34 75 9 (Sternwarte) 39 55 8 (West) 47 49 25 26 19 (West) 33 40 31 22  
 11 Lübeck (FIRE) 35 59 12 (Sternwarte) 43 59 15 12 15 (Märkte) 39 46 35 15 15 (Friedrichs  
 34 44 35 16 (Damm) 44 38 17 15 (Augsburg) 34 56 45 15 (Reichsstraße) 32 62  
 19 (Berg) 34 46 15 16 (Lütjenburg) 34 46 15 16 (West) 31 21 (Hagener Höhe) 32 45 15 15 (Danziger  
 34 50 33 32 33 33 (Lübeck) 38 39 24 24 (Tiefe) 34 29 16 (West) 33 26 16 (West) 32 31 16 26  
 (West) 33 22 17 (Celle) 33 26 26 (Celle) 33 26 26 (West) 33 26 26 (West) 33 26 26 (West)  
 34 26 26 (West) 33 26 26

Finals results continued  
on page 33

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# LONDON

## '81 Champions All

### WOMANS REPORT

On Tuesday, April 10th, Kathy Johnson and I left the Atlanta Airport at 8:35 pm bound for JFK, and later arrived in London on the O'Learys Airport at 8:35 am London time via Laker — "no frills" — Airlines. We did not workout at all Wednesday, however Kathy did her 30 minute ballet warm-up and stretched.

Thursday — Wembly Arena is very old but nice. The equipment was supplied by Continental Sports, the floor mat was spring-loaded so an inch of matting placed on top of an inch of vibration, the horse looked awesome, the listed was a very good wooden board, the bars dramatically were set to new FIG specs and the beam leaned about 15° to the right, with the middle at least a half-inch lower than the ends. Training with us were the Japanese, the British and the French. You could choose either the use of the pre-training period or we had to sit near the ~~judges~~. BOCHNER, the East German, was the Czech. Total workout was 250 hours. Kathy did her dance warm-up first and then went right. Bevin was a little rough as Kathy was having problems with handstands and back extensions. Kathy did all her tumbling but was having a little trouble on one and a half through to double full. We were going to go back to floor but the same was not.

Friday — We went to the early session to train with the Czech, Russian, Romanian and East German. Kathy did dance warm-up first. The Russian was 15 years old and went to have first, she did excellent legerde in rock handstands, good clear tops, good grants and a veryify flyaway double back dismount. Christiane Grigores (ROM) went to beam and spent most of her time there. The Czech girl did pike down over low bar, hang long kip and handstand half turn to complete the cycle 1½ turns on high bar to regular low bar. She did have trouble holding her feet up in the glide. The Russian's floor was beautiful! Very classical and simple dance. She did pike double 1½ turns, whip back through to a high back take, crossing pike and finished with a slightly weak double full. On beam Grigores did a turn with a half twist on beam. When she went to bars, she did her best to a Krasse. She finished with a nice toe frost half. The boy Roman had real problems on vault. She did some amazing pike turns. Her coach did not spot these. She did some nice hollow layout turns with her spotting. Kathy's PK workout went well. She did two down through then quit for the day.

*"Her floor was beautiful and received well. She scored 9.5 out of 9.8. This was the highest floor score."*

Saturday — During warm-ups, the 13 year old Roman got stuck right in line with the end of the beam with her nose almost touching the beam to try to "psych" Kathy — it did not bother Kathy at all but I went up and told her to move to the side. It was cut-throat in the lines because the beam and a half warm-ups were not used.

Competitions — All the girls started on vault. Kathy did a medium layout Tuck, received a 9.4, as Kathy attempted to Tuck full. She kicked her legs back on preflight so she did not have enough speed over the horse to make the vault. She touched down with both hands and then went to her knees — she received a 9.9. Kim performed a surprisingly good layout and also received a 9.4. Grigores performed two excellent back tucks and had good height and distance. Her body was just a little loose and she did not stick either one. 9.7

Bevin Korn (18888) did a nice bar set with no form deductions and excellent technique. She employed the double flyaway dismount and received a 9.6 for her effort. Grimes had a very clean bar set and stuck her first half dismount for a 9.65. Kathy did a super 1½ turn but completed it stopping on the last one (65) and the last hand blade change (also 65). She stuck her double full. Grigores was about an eighth short on the turn. Kathy got a 9.55.

Bevin, Kathy had a super set going. She nailed her back layout (no decs) not to chance two more the all around was so clean! She nailed her roundoff back tuck. When she got to the two back

extensions I thought she was home free. She went up for the last back extension and both hands stayed as she approached the handstand. She came straight down on her head with a bang. She twisted around for a few seconds like she was dead and I started to go up on the platform and bring her down. She had recovered as I was on the first step and jumped back up on the beam. She walked the length of the beam and then finished her routine with excellent form and standstill. She received a 9.15 out of 9.8 for the full bar. I put in an inquiry to see if there was any RS or DV given. There was not. Grigores an beam went over time and did not receive credit for her double back dismount. She also had a fall on her front beam layout. The rest of her routine was solid — she received a 9.1. Kim had 2 falls on beam and recovered on 8.55.

Floor — Kathy decided to use double pike double full and double full for her tumbling. Her floor was beautiful and recovered well. She scored 9.6 out of 9.8. This was the highest floor score. Kim did a lovely floor showing maturity beyond her years. Her grace and style were simple and elegant. She got a 9.45. We know that Grimes needed a 9.6 to tie Kathy for 1st. AK and a 9.2 to win. She opened with an excellent full but she had a lack of control on the landing and stepped back out of bounds. She did front through to double full middle pike and finished with a work double. She had a 3 hand touch on her last double back and her dismount was not good. She recovered a 9.8 taking first place all around. Kathy ended up second.

By Sunny Cook



1984 Olympian and UCLA student-athlete Peter Vidmar shows a straddled front crawl.

## MENS REPORT

There were eight male gymnasts at the 1981 Champions All Competition divided into two groups, group A and B. Group B consisted of the following gymnasts: Jeff Evans, Brett Johnson, Dan Smith, Czechoslovakia, Ollijs Janssens, France, and Kurt Sauer, Germany. Group A included Krysztof Gaj, Japan, Svenn Jevsik, USSR, and Peter Vidmar, USA.

To indicate the level in the field of gymnasts, the following is a brief sketch of the gymnasts' (amongst others): (1) Jeff Evans — 26 year old British All-Around Champion for the past 3 years; (2) Dan Smith — 24 year old 1979 Czechoslovakian National All-Around Champion, runner-up in 1980, losing the title to Rudolf Bohack, (3) Ollijs Janssens — 22 year old 2 times French Junior All-Around Champion, alternate at the 1980 Olympic Team; (4) Kurt Sauer — 24 year old All-Around Silver Medalist in the 1980 Olympics, bronze medalist, member of the 1979 World Championships Team, and the 1980 Olympic Team; (5) Brian Jenkins — 20 year old former East German Junior Champion, and 5th place All Around in the 1980 East German National Championship; (6) Krysztof Gaj — 26 year old 4th place All Around finisher in the 1980 All-Japan Gymnastics Championship; National High Bar Champion the past 5 years; (7) Alexander Tumilovitch — 18 year old All-Around Bronze Medalist in the 1980 Junior European Championships, and 181 Peter Vidmar — 1980 USOF All Around Champion. Of the 8 gymnasts, 3 were either the present or former All Around Champions of their respective countries. 4 have at one time or another, been ranked in the top 6, and 1, Alexander Tumilovitch, a new Russian gymnast, who with increased strength may one day break into the Russian National Team. Thus, although this meet is called the "Champions All," the field of competitors were by and large not champions, but near champions.

*"His flexibility enabled him to move in the most graceful and artistic way. He opened my eyes to the importance of flexibility in gymnastics."*

SoR, it was a highly contested match, especially for first place. A meet such as this, where only one gymnast represents his country, puts an almost unfair pressure on the gymanst and coach. One might mean the difference between first and fourth. Being able that difference might mean responsibility for not only himself but for his country or a lack of responsibility in the eyes of international judges. Peter Vidmar's first place and Kathy Johnson's second place should help us in our quest for medals in the upcoming World Championships.

Alexander Tumilovitch's extreme flexibility enabled him to perform the Tumult Bar as well as anyone in the world. His form in positions of extreme flexibility was superb. His flexibility enabled him to move in the most graceful and artistic way. He opened my eyes to the importance of flexibility in gymnastics.

In conclusion, I would like to say the British Amateur Gymnastics Association staged a most excellent meet. The fine accommodations, efficient transportation, and the warm hospitality extended to all the gymnasts and coaches, ensured them of a joyous vacation for success in this year's "Champions All" Gymnastics Tournament. At the gain reception following the competition, Sir Roy Cook spoke for all the delegations and presented Mr. Franklin Edwards of the British Amateur Gymnastics Association with a copper viene statue on behalf of the United States Gymnastics Federation. Upon receiving the gift, everyone burst into laughter at Sir Edwards' reply, "Save it from one down to another down."

By Mikuto Sakamoto

## 1981 CHAMPIONS ALL

London, England

April 11, 1981

1981 CHAMPIONS ALL

|                  | PL  | PR   | BR   | Y    | PR   | BR   | AA   |
|------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. KRYZSTOF GAJ  | PRM | 9.10 | 9.35 | 9.20 | 8.80 | 9.10 | 8.80 |
| 2. BRETT JOHNSON | GBR | 9.05 | 8.85 | 9.05 | 8.60 | 9.45 | 8.00 |
| 3. DAN SMITH     | CZE | 9.00 | 9.00 | 9.00 | 8.80 | 9.00 | 8.80 |
| 4. PETER VIDMAR  | USA | 9.35 | 9.55 | 9.45 | 8.50 | 9.50 | 8.80 |
| 5. JEFF EVANS    | GBR | 8.80 | 8.50 | 9.00 | 8.00 | 8.80 | 8.00 |
| 6. OLIJS JANSENS | COL | 8.90 | 8.80 | 8.90 | 8.10 | 8.90 | 8.00 |
| 7. KURT SAUER    | FRA | 8.75 | 8.60 | 8.80 | 8.00 | 8.80 | 8.00 |
| 8. BRIAN JENKINS | FRA | 8.80 | 8.60 | 9.00 | 8.00 | 8.80 | 8.00 |

## TOKYO

### Tokyo Broadcasting System Cup

#### WOMANS REPORT

Prior to actual competition it was quite evident that both Shelly Gaudette and Patti Fox had traveled to Japan to "compete." Early in the practice rounds it was not uncommon for the girls to be applauded by an watching Japanese gymnasts, male and female alike, who stopped their workouts to watch and enjoy our girls. The second day found us at the competition site for what proved to be an age spanning event. The excitement of competing in the Olympic stadium was not to be overshadowed by the realization that this was truly international competition: wooden boards, rock-like running swing floor, etc. We elected to take out the double back element of back girls routines and substitute for C/R credit the tumbling capabilities that each girl was able to handle. Shelly used her one and one half tumbling back somersault then to a double twisting back somersault for her C/R credit and Patti utilized her triple full twisting back somersault instead of the double back to also attain her C/R credit.

*"Under normal competitive rules the all-around would find Michelle in second place with a 37.40, one tenth off the mark of the first place Chinese girl Ma Yan Hong."*

This meet was considered a finals meet — finals without any preliminaries — finals rules and all. Voicing new business a concern and had a need for two "C" level vaults from two different females. The United States Women's team and the Chinese Women's team were to compete all-around. The Japanese Women's team would not compete all-around but would compete on their best two events. The US girls, two Chinese girls (their fourth and fifth in order of competition), and eight Japanese National members (one was later scratched from the competition).

We followed Olympic routine. Patti undoubtedly performed the best handspring free vault of the entire meet, unfortunately her Tuckahorn full credit did not go well. Michelle performed a full handspring off and follow full seat off Shelly, by far, occupied the clearest full twisting vault in pre-flight and in after flight of anyone. Chinese and Japanese exploded. Both girls best vaults were evaluated at 8.45, the Japanese resulting scores of that event. The Chinese both competed full twist in and full twist off, and not well. I might add, plus layout Tuckahorn, which paid down severely. Admittedly the Chinese girls used additional strength training to aid their growth in this event. Other girls excelled by the remaining Japanese competitors included pike Tuckahorn, plus one girl performing a handspring half-twist back turn out (with back lock out technique on the pre-flight stage of the vault).

We then moved to US competition where Patti drew first up and did the first job by hitting her pommel handstand level score consist, but was lost (flysway round and handstand half turn) Tuckahorn dismount. Shelly mounted well using her front pike score consist, but suffered slight rhythmic breaks in her full twisting free hip hand series then to her strength whip half turn handstand. She finished strong, with a well executed handstand sole circle half-turn pike

## 1981 CHAMPIONS ALL

London, England

April 11, 1981

|                       | Y   | UR   | BR   | PR   | AA   |
|-----------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|
| 1. ENRIQUE CARRERA    | PER | 9.70 | 9.62 | 9.10 | 8.80 |
| 2. JOHNSON KATHY      | USA | 9.60 | 9.64 | 9.75 | 8.80 |
| 3. KIRI TATYANA       | URS | 8.80 | 8.80 | 8.80 | 8.80 |
| 4. GEORGINA MARY      | CZE | 9.40 | 9.40 | 9.10 | 8.80 |
| 5. PETERSON MARTHA    | CZE | 9.10 | 9.20 | 9.20 | 8.80 |
| 6. RUMYANTSEV KIRILIN | CZE | 9.10 | 9.00 | 8.80 | 8.80 |
| 7. PELLOUIN CECILE    | PER | 8.80 | 8.80 | 8.80 | 8.80 |
| 8. SAMOI ARIADNE      | PER | 8.80 | 8.80 | 8.80 | 8.80 |

somersault over the low bar. Michelle was awarded a 9.0 for her effort while Patti earned 9.2 and the bronze medal. **Balance beam** — Both the Chinese girls are supreme on this event. Their skills bodies swing like none other than I have seen, and their innovative concoctions are also without rival. The elements executed by them included a very pure blind change-over, various twisting elements to include a full twisting back handspring, which earned one of the girls a 9.9.

**Balance beam** — Patti was up early in the competition, and had a rough go of it, suffering two falls. The lighting in the stadium was surely not proper for world class gymnastics. Shelly was able to successfully concentrate on her routine and earned an 8.8 standing 9.0 effort. Michelle was the only competitor in the competition to tumble out of a side serial, and her backhandspring somersault was the highest in the meet. Shelly took home the Silver medal on this event, and the American girls clearly showed the highest level of difficulty attempted on Beam.

Her exercise went quite well for the American team. Patti turned in an inspired performance, taking a very clean triple-full twisting back somersault and caught her fall tumbling with a nice display of showmanship. Patti's effort earned her a well deserved Silver medal on this event, having been evaluated at a 9.5. Michelle finished the day with a fine job on the event, the event with which she earned her national title. Unfortunately she landed her last tumbling pass slightly short, earning her a fourth place finish at 9.4.

Under normal competitive rules the all-around would find Michelle in second place with a 37.43 one-tenth off the mark of the first place Chinese girl Mi Yin Hong. Also under these regulations our girls would have had for the gold medal in the vaulting competition, both having scores of 9.8, the highest individual efforts in that event. **Soilane** is to say we were pleased to have represented the United States in Tokyo, Japan and were proud to have been selected for this exciting international experience.

By Tom McCarthy

that the underlying, unspoken motive for this alliance is the desire to compete with the Soviet Union for the number one gymnastics position.

By Malerie Balcom

THE 12th TBS CUP  
Tokyo, Japan  
April 23, 1981

|                 |     | V    | US | EB   | FX |
|-----------------|-----|------|----|------|----|
| Yin Hong Mi     | PRC | 9.70 | 2  | 9.80 | 1  |
| Li Wei          | PRC | 9.05 | 3  | 9.45 | 4  |
| Chen Shimeng    | JPN | 9.75 | 1  |      |    |
| Yoko Nagasawa   | JPN | 9.90 | 5  |      |    |
| Kazue Matsui    | JPN |      |    | 9.10 | 4  |
| Reiko Tadami    | JPN |      |    | 9.00 | 3  |
| Reiko Mori      | JPN |      |    | 9.00 | 2  |
| Michelle Balcom | USA | 9.05 | 8  | 9.05 | 5  |
| Paula Rose      | USA | 9.05 | 4  | 8.90 | 7  |

|               | FX  | PH   | R | S    | FP | BD   |
|---------------|-----|------|---|------|----|------|
| Yin Hong Mi   | PRC | 9.70 | 8 | 9.05 | 4  | 9.05 |
| Reiko Mori    | JPN | 9.75 | 2 | 9.45 | 1  | 9.40 |
| Reiko Tadami  | JPN | 9.45 | 1 | 9.25 |    |      |
| Yoko Nagasawa | JPN | 9.90 | 5 |      |    |      |
| Kazue Matsui  | JPN | 9.10 | 7 |      |    |      |
| Reiko Mori    | JPN | 9.00 | 6 | 9.05 | 3  | 9.05 |
| Yoko Nagasawa | JPN | 9.15 | 9 | 9.05 | 8  | 9.05 |
| Young Anjoon  | KOR | 9.05 | 7 |      |    |      |
| Reiko Mori    | JPN |      |   | 9.10 | 5  | 9.10 |
| Reiko Mori    | JPN |      |   | 9.05 | 4  | 9.05 |
| Peter Vidmar  | USA | 9.10 | 2 | 8.90 | 4  | 8.95 |
| Mark Boydell  | USA | 8.75 | 7 | 8.90 | 3  | 8.95 |

## GUEST OPINION



On Being A Member Of The  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL GYMNASTICS TEAM

By Eric Reiter

Quite frankly I am appalled by the attitude of some of the best gymnasts in the country.

When gymnasts on the NATIONAL TEAM are being pulled out of previously accepted international commitments, it then becomes necessary for the USAGF to send lower ranked athletes to these invita-

tions. The fact that this often creates havoc at the last minute to secure visas or schedule arrangements on the part of the next gymnast to line and their mates is the least of the problems.

The part which disturbs me most is that we appear a way of thinking in the ranks of our gymnasts in making the National Team really nothing special if it happens at the wrong time in the opinion of the coach. Those seem to be two kinds of competitions which must — which are worth working for — the Olympic Game Trials and the World Championship Trials. This further implies all the other opportunities of achievement don't mean much if you miss these two. So if you are not born in a convenient year to participate a "good year" for the Olympic year — you might as well forget it. This means being chosen to represent your country in an "International Invitational" no longer has much meaning since the best gymnasts in our country turn them down. The "lesser" can go to himself in his own youth, there was nothing more important than being a member of the National Team and to compete for my country. Everything else took second place.

How can we expect a sense of pride in our gymnasts, if we consider it not something to be envied first?

Let me tell you our gymnasts had an extremely tiring day and most of the experienced athletes blew it and then saved her high up the ladder where she really shouldn't be yet. Her coach could conveniently take her off the National Team at a point right after the selection meet so another gymnast may take her place.

One should not brag about being a member of the National Team and not accept the consequences at the same time. One comes with the other. If the coach does not think she is ready yet to represent the country, maybe she should not enter the National Championships in the first place. She perhaps should still be training.

## MENS REPORT

The TBS Cup was held on Saturday, April 23 at Yoyogi Number 2 Gymnasium in Tokyo. The number of spectators attending the meet was, in my estimation, about 3,000. This was about 3000 better than the year before. The meet was also shown on the TBS television network the next day.

The TBS Cup is not an all-around competition, but an event final competition. Thus most reward medals were given. For the men, only three gymnasts performed on all six events — Peter Vidmar, Mark Boydell, and Huang Yu Bin of China. Xiong Song Liang sprained his ankle during practice and was not able to compete. Michael was silver medalist in the floor, personal bars, and rings. Peter was a silver medalist in the floor, personal bars, and rings. Peter was a silver medalist in the floor. Michael rotated his fall in, lost his step on the long bars, and earned his Gaylord flag. However, he did perhaps his best ring work ever, earning him a solid second place in the great ring race. Huang Yu Bin of China had perhaps his best meet of his career. He earned an all six events. The two boys were depressed after the meet, but looked forward to a three-way meet among UCLA, Indiana University, and the Japanese Aburatsu Team. This meet, attended by Mr. Nakanishi, Vice President of the Japan Gymnastics Association, and other high officials of the Americans, saw Peter winning the all-around with a 37.30 and Michael second at 36.98. They out distanced Kitaogawa and Yager, both members of the 1981 Japanese Olympic Team. The two boys won responsibility for the United States. They represented well.

The Japanese men looked very impressive. Moriwaki's high bar which included a one-arm Gengsaw, reserve hand, Markov's chest, and a triple flip was most exciting. Sotomaru's parallel bar routine, performed to the ultimate, included a flying straight arm pectoral, and no effortless gain was apparent from both audience and judges. Huang Yu Bin's straight arm parallel bars routine was performed with a straight body showing no signs of strain. Perhaps it is consistent, but all the best all-around gymnasts, including Dittmar, Gushiken, Hartung, Cesar, and Huang Yu Bin, are all strong in the parallel section.

The Japanese officials reiterated their hope that the TBS Cup would be a start of a Japan China USA alliance that could lead to excellence in world gymnastics. Parenthetically, it should be noted

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"... many news publications and headlines throughout the USA gave Nadia another '10'."

# NADIA '81

'81 ROMANIAN TOUR

The progress from the Romanian tour of the United States is titled, "Nadia '81", yet perhaps a more definitive title for these exhibitions would be — Nadia and Kurt. The crowds and the media came to see both of these international gymnasts star.

The six-city tour began March 15 in New York City at Madison Square Garden before moving on to Hartford, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Detroit and Philadelphia. Along with Nadia and Kurt were members of the 1980 Romanian Women's Olympic Team and top American male gymnasts from around the country. The tour was produced through Applause, Inc. of Greenwich, Connecticut, and its shrewdness and success created one additional stop in Washington, D.C.

There were no competitions in these exhibitions, but many news publications and headlines throughout the USA gave Nadia another '10'. Nadia is age 19 today, she is a first-year student at the University in Bucharest, she appears healthy and satisfied. Her performance was selected for exhibition; she was not trained or selected for Olympic competition.

At every stop the news media engulfed Nadia. In New York City prior to Sunday's opening at the Garden she submitted to uniform interviews and photo sessions during training. On Friday morning she appeared on ABC's Good Morning America. Throughout the talk about her goals, her future, Nadia remains a dedicated gymnast; a dedicated athlete concerned her style of striving towards technical perfection combined with challenging herself to remain competitive with difficulty and originality will again be rewarded. Her competitive plans include this year's World University Games held this summer in her native Romania, and the meantime the LA — '84 Olympics.

Nadia seems to future, after competition has ended for her, still much involved with gymnastics. She expects to continue with teaching and coaching, and looks forward to helping the younger, beginner gymnasts. When asked what she would teach first to her beginning gymnasts — her reply was simply "Flexibility".

Since age Kurt Thomas is "retired" (Don't believe it). He may no longer be eligible to compete as an amateur athlete in competition, but he is not retired. Kurt looked every bit the World Champion he is. His gymnastics performances were all on-par with his successful training and competitive victories at the last World Championships in Fort Worth, Texas.

Kurt and Nadia — gymnasts, athletes, performers, entertainers. The crowds loved them at each stop along the tour. Individually and together they stopped the show with each appearance.

The Romanian women's team added high level world-class gymnastic performances. Paula Eberle, Dumitru Fermer, Rodica Draga, Marilena Vladescu, Ecaterina Bobea, Cristian Gheorghe and

Lucia Andrei were well-trained, and showed the reason why the Romanians under Bela and Mihai Karsoly were '78 World Champions and '80 Olympic Silver Medalists.

The Americans were given homage to the tour, and were highlighted by the floor exercise performance by Peter Kornman. Sunday's Madison Square Garden show was televised on ABC's Wide World of Sports, and along with Nadia and Kurt, ABC also chose to show the FX routine by the 25 year old US Naval Academy Coach, Karsoly. A fitting tribute to a great '76 USA Gymnastics and the Olympic Reserve Medalist as floor.

As the tour ended and the Romanians prepared to leave the country, many folks expressed the hope this would not be the last time to see Nadia perform. She does competitions to come, but as far as athletes retirement will eventually come. However, since '76, Nadia has given to the world and to the gymnastics community a wealth of herself — a child, an Olympic Champion, a Romanian national hero, a world sports star — competitive perfection, resolute energy, grace and mystique.

## ROMANIAN COACHES DEFEAT THE UNITED STATES

On Tuesday, April 7, the US State Department issued a statement as reported by the Washington Post News Service, which said, "Bela Karsoly, 38, his wife, Mihai, and Genn Peizer, the top choreographer for the Romanian National Gymnastics Team, informed Romanian officials of their decision to defect to the United States in a meeting Tuesday at the State Department."

The Karsolys had just completed a 4-week tour of the United States by the Romanian gymnastics team. This tour included Olympic Champion Nadia Comaneci, who the Karsolys had entered in starlets and as models at the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

The Karsolys' decision, the Post News Service went on to say, "stemmed from longstanding dissatisfaction with their treatment by the Romanian State Central Federation of Athletics. After Comaneci's spectacular success in Moscow, she was treated as a national asset and removed from their training for periods ranging up to a year."

On Thursday, June 11, 8 months after their defection, the Associated Press reported the Karsolys had signed contracts to teach the women's gymnastics team at the University of Oklahoma, and also work at a private gymnastics club in Norman, owned by OU head gymnastics coach Paul Kurt Karsoly said that he and his wife, "looked at several U.S. locations before deciding to settle in Norman," and said "tradition" and "friendship" as factors in their choice.

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AN INTERNATIONAL MASTERS — 1984  
 APRIL 13, 1984

### WOMEN'S FINALS

|                       | VAULT | QUALIFYING | FINALS | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|-------|------------|--------|-------|
| 1. Regi Jandl         | COR   | 9.75       | 9.80   | 19.55 |
| 2. Marcia Drousek     | COR   | 9.92       | 9.80   | 19.22 |
| 3. Kelly Cheyette     | USA   | 9.30       | 9.20   | 18.50 |
| 4. Olga Kuchinskaya   | COR   | 9.85       | 9.85   | 19.70 |
| 5. Svetlana Kostyuk   | URSS  | 9.15       | 9.00   | 18.15 |
| 6. Rita Chawanya      | URR   | 9.15       | 9.05   | 18.15 |
| 7. Marlene Fanta      | ROM   | 8.89       | 8.75   | 17.64 |
| 8. Anna Wenzel-Demjan | COR   | 9.35       | 9.50   | 18.85 |

### UNEVEN BARS

|                      |     |      |      |       |
|----------------------|-----|------|------|-------|
| 1. Marcia Drousek    | COR | 9.18 | 9.05 | 18.23 |
| 2. Regi Jandl        | COR | 9.05 | 9.70 | 18.35 |
| 3. Eva Ober          | URR | 9.14 | 9.00 | 18.14 |
| 4. Kelly Cheyette    | USA | 9.28 | 9.40 | 18.68 |
| 5. Olga Kuchinskaya  | COR | 9.18 | 9.30 | 18.48 |
| 6. Rita Chawanya     | URR | 9.08 | 9.20 | 18.28 |
| 7. Jeannie Esmeralda | USA | 9.18 | 9.10 | 18.18 |
| 8. Hilde Schenkens   | GER | 9.08 | 9.10 | 18.18 |

### BALANCE BEAM

|                     |     |      |      |       |
|---------------------|-----|------|------|-------|
| 1. Franca Vrigli    | COR | 9.45 | 9.10 | 18.55 |
| 2. Marcia Drousek   | COR | 9.25 | 9.00 | 18.25 |
| 3. Marcia Drousek   | KOR | 9.15 | 9.30 | 18.45 |
| 4. Irina Savchenko  | URR | 9.05 | 9.05 | 18.10 |
| 5. Bill Cooley      | URR | 9.15 | 9.15 | 18.30 |
| 6. Darlene Luttrell | USA | 9.08 | 9.00 | 18.08 |
| 7. Marlene Fanta    | ROM | 9.05 | 9.05 | 18.10 |
| 8. Alita Eich       | URR | 9.15 | 9.15 | 18.30 |

### FLOOR EXERCISE

|                     |      |      |      |       |
|---------------------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. Miki Endoh       | COR  | 9.68 | 9.00 | 18.68 |
| 2. Regi Jandl       | COR  | 9.58 | 9.10 | 18.68 |
| 3. Svetlana Kostyuk | URSS | 9.18 | 9.12 | 18.30 |
| 4. Kelly Cheyette   | USA  | 9.18 | 9.00 | 18.18 |
| 5. Darlene Luttrell | USA  | 9.25 | 9.25 | 18.50 |
| 6. Valarie Gia      | ROM  | 9.25 | 9.25 | 18.50 |
| 7. Rita Chawanya    | URR  | 9.05 | 9.25 | 18.30 |
| 8. Giselle Sotiles  | COR  | 9.15 | 9.10 | 18.25 |

### MEN'S FINALS

|                      |     |      |      |       |
|----------------------|-----|------|------|-------|
| 1. Michael Nastoy    | COR | 9.49 | 9.60 | 19.09 |
| 2. Robert Schumert   | COR | 9.49 | 9.70 | 19.19 |
| 3. Koenraad Goossens | ROM | 9.49 | 9.00 | 18.49 |
| 4. Henkjan Tijssens  | AFN | 9.30 | 9.00 | 18.30 |
| 5. Ryszard Matuszak  | AFN | 9.40 | 9.40 | 18.70 |
| 6. Louis Melius      | URR | 9.30 | 9.30 | 18.60 |

### POMMEL HORSE

|                        |     |      |      |       |
|------------------------|-----|------|------|-------|
| 1. Michael Nastoy      | COR | 9.72 | 9.70 | 19.42 |
| 2. Lars Ivar Polsteren | AFN | 9.58 | 9.70 | 19.28 |
| 3. Bill Heilmann       | COR | 9.55 | 9.30 | 18.85 |
| 4. Burchard Melchers   | AFN | 9.49 | 9.40 | 18.89 |
| 5. Steven Sen Choi     | KOR | 9.00 | 9.05 | 18.05 |
| 6. Inian Neman         | URR | 9.59 | 9.10 | 18.69 |

### RING

|                     |     |      |      |       |
|---------------------|-----|------|------|-------|
| 1. Evert-Jan Claes  | KOR | 9.58 | 9.70 | 19.28 |
| 2. Roland Zedler    | COR | 9.05 | 9.80 | 18.85 |
| 3. El Oak Chin      | KOR | 9.05 | 9.40 | 18.45 |
| 4. Michael Melius   | COR | 9.25 | 9.40 | 18.65 |
| 5. Ken Galliher     | USA | 9.15 | 9.40 | 18.55 |
| 6. Henkjan Tijssens | AFN | 9.20 | 9.00 | 18.20 |

### VAULT

|                      |     |      |      |       |
|----------------------|-----|------|------|-------|
| 1. Pascual Bautista  | COR | 9.68 | 9.63 | 19.31 |
| 2. Michael Melius    | COR | 9.55 | 9.60 | 19.15 |
| 3. Burchard Melchers | AFN | 9.48 | 9.80 | 19.28 |
| 4. Henkjan Tijssens  | AFN | 9.18 | 9.20 | 18.38 |
| 5. Dean Sen Choi     | KOR | 9.05 | 9.25 | 18.30 |
| 6. Daniel Witten     | AFN | 9.38 | 9.10 | 18.48 |

### PARALLEL BARS

|                      |     |      |      |       |
|----------------------|-----|------|------|-------|
| 1. Roland Zedler     | COR | 9.40 | 9.80 | 19.20 |
| 2. Michael Melius    | COR | 9.35 | 9.60 | 19.15 |
| 3. Burchard Melchers | AFN | 9.48 | 9.80 | 19.28 |
| 4. Henkjan Tijssens  | AFN | 9.18 | 9.20 | 18.38 |
| 5. Dean Sen Choi     | KOR | 9.05 | 9.25 | 18.30 |
| 6. Daniel Witten     | AFN | 9.38 | 9.10 | 18.48 |

### HIGH BAR

|                     |     |      |      |       |
|---------------------|-----|------|------|-------|
| 1. Michael Nastoy   | COR | 9.15 | 9.70 | 18.85 |
| 2. Roland Zedler    | COR | 9.05 | 9.05 | 18.10 |
| 3. Henkjan Tijssens | AFN | 9.05 | 9.05 | 18.10 |
| 4. Henkjan Tijssens | AFN | 9.05 | 9.05 | 18.10 |
| 5. Daniel Witten    | AFN | 9.30 | 9.40 | 18.70 |
| 6. Guan Gen Chen    | AFN | 9.45 | 9.20 | 18.65 |

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